

**Interview with Mayo Stuntz**  
**Conducted by Mary Lipsey for the**  
**Providence District History Project Providence Perspective**  
**Observer Linda Byrne**

**August 13, 2008**

**Mary:** This is Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup> 2008 and we're in the home of Mayo and Connie Stuntz of Windover Avenue in Vienna, Virginia. And we are going to interview Mr. Stuntz about his lifetime commitment to history and preserving historical sites and cemeteries etc. in this area. First of all can you tell us a little bit about your family background; I have heard that you are related to the Fitzhugh family.

**Mayo:** Okay I'll start – My mother was Lena Grayson Fitzhugh born in Culpepper and she married my father Steven Conrad Stuntz who had come here from Wisconsin to work at the Library of Congress. He came in 1902 or 1903 and they were married in 1907 and they moved to Vienna immediately thereafter. They lived in Vienna on Chain Bridge Road at Pleasant Street for a year and then bought a house one block north where Courthouse Road joins Rt. 123 in Vienna. I was born in that house; Jiffy Lube is there now.

**Mary:** Oh, so the house no longer stands, okay.

**Mayo:** And I was born in 1915 and then my father hired a good architect and a good builder and built had Merry Go Round built where my daughter lives today it is in trust. She lives there with her three boys and it's where I lived 85 years; counting stuff like Cornell and I had a job in Wilmington, North Carolina for a while. But always that was home and I lived there 85 years and then moved in 1999 to this house. And so that's where I am today.

**Mary:** My curiosity has it because we know back then chance encounters didn't come across and so how would a young lady meet – she's living in Culpepper and

she meets a man who's working downtown Washington, D.C. in the Library of Congress.

**Mayo:** That's very easy because they were much more respectful in those days of aide and assistance to young men and maybe young ladies (chuckles). But my father had come here and he was asked if he wanted to attend a wedding in Culpepper on a weekend. And it was so simple in those days much better than now. You got on a train and you went to Culpepper and it was simple, it was less than an hour.

When he got there he met my mother and when they went through the wedding rehearsal they said Steve you be the groom or something and then Lena I think they matched them up that early. Lena you be the bride for the wedding rehearsal. So they met then.

**Mary:** And the rest is history – right?

**Mayo:** Yeah, and she was Lena Grayson Fitzhugh and Steven Conrad Stuntz. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1909, 1999 no 1899.

**Mary:** 1899.

**Mayo:** And he worked for the Library of Congress from a while. And then for a guy named David Fairchild who was a fellow botanist. And David Fairchild has a couple of Museums in Florida named for him and resource places for plants. And that's what my father was doing when he died with the Flu epidemic in 1918 the second of February. And he's buried at Flint Hill.

**Mary:** And that flu epidemic came as a result of the World War I.

**Mayo:** Whatever was happening?

**Mary:** Yes.

**Mayo:** Somebody said they read about it recently and there's tens of thousands of people all over the World with flu.

**Mary:** That died, yeah. It's called the Spanish Flu. So now tell us you say your mother was a Fitzhugh. Can you tell us who the Fitzhugh's were?

**Mayo:** Well the original William Fitzhugh who arrived in this country about I think 1650 or so, and lived in Culpepper and married well and so he had some money and I guess bought land. I don't know about the first one but subsequent ones stayed in this area. And I hear that two Fitzhugh men married Mason women which was a fair contact. And then one of the Fitzhugh families' moved to way west Knoxville or somewhere. And I will tell you later why I know this much. One of those men married the daughter of the gentleman who wrote a two volume history of, it's a Fairfax County icon, a two volume history of probably churches early Virginia churches. But I just heard the name the other day and I said Oh, I know who the fellow was so but to get an aside there is a woman her name is Maddy she was there the other night.

**Mary:** Maddy McCoy.

**Mayo:** Yeah.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** And she is doing that data base for American Fairfax County Slaves.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** And she gave me a copy of that printed - she had - seventeen hundred and fifty names recorded. So that's going to be

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** So that's going to be - when she does that she gets it from wills and things like that and then she knows where the family went sometimes. In this case she told me the family went one branch went to Knoxville and that's why I know.

**Mary:** Okay. Now the Fitzhugh's eventually owned Ravensworth.

**Mayo:** Yeah, well they came up and they were on the north south Chatham in Fredericksburg according to my mother and this is family lore; people would stop

by on their way north and south and visit. And you didn't just go by yourself and ring a doorbell. You came with your entourage maybe slaves for help and your wife and your kids and then two or three slaves and they had to be put up along with you. And so William Fitzhugh theoretically built Ravensworth out in the country to get away from that north south traffic and all those guests.

**Mary:** So it was a little refuge right?

**Mayo:** That's true, we don't know but that's one of the reasons. And Ravensworth burned about 1926. I don't know when it was built, probably in the late 1700's; but it was a family home and those eight chairs we have were side chairs for a dining set and the end chairs are down in Washington at the

**Mary:** Is it the University?

**Mayo:** No, they're on - opposite the White House and I want to say something like Dahlgrin but not Dahlgrin.

**Linda:** The DAR

**Mayo:** No, the end chairs were there and I haven't seen them because when I went there they were redoing most of them or something. So I haven't seen them; but there is a picture when Robert E. Lee was visiting down there at Ravensworth. And there is a picture, I don't know if that's the one he's in or not. But you see the side chairs and you see the armchairs.

**Mary:** Wow.

**Mayo:** So there is proof that they were

**Mary:** At Ravensworth of course Robert E. Lee honeymooned at Ravensworth because his wife's aunt was Anna Marie Fitzhugh.

**Mayo:** Okay.

**Mary:** Okay, do you ever remember visiting Ravensworth.

**Mayo:** Ah, well when it burned we went down there later. I visited the place after the burning because we knew the man that the Lee I think it was the Lee family hired to run Ravensworth farm and he had been a friend of ours up here in Fairfax. Another young kid about 12 or 13 or 14 visited Ravensworth; just the manager's house.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** But we saw the rest but we didn't take it in. There was a barn and we have a picture of the barn, nice carriage house really.

**Mary:** Well tell us about growing up here in Vienna and about going to school and things like that.

**Mayo:** Well, I went to school the first time in Vienna in 1921. I hope I'm right, from Merry-Go-Round our house up the street here. You've been, have you been there.

**Mary:** No, I've not been there.

**Mayo:** It's this side of Cox's produce stand on the other side of the road. And you can hardly see it because of growth. But it's next to Mosby's landing and then there are five I believe or nine town houses to the south and we're five acres in between. So my Father and mother had bought that and built a house on it. I went to the first grade in 1921 and we did not – oh the original school had burned and we have a picture of it. And it was the boiler blew up so it was a fireproof school that burned. So all the wood of it burned but the rest was chunky. So they had the original school there that they had replaced so they didn't tear it down so I went to the first grade in that building.

**Mary:** I'm confused. So the school that burned was actually the second school is that what you are saying?

**Mayo:** No the school that burned was the first modern school.

**Mary:** Right, okay.

**Mayo:** Cinder block would probably – red tin roof and ah well I don't know what the red roof was?

**Mary:** But it burned when

**Mayo:** The one that burned was supposedly a modern school and it did burn. But they had not torn down the original 1970 school 1870 school so it was still standing so they used it; crowded two rooms. Two grades on one side and two grades on the other side, and a temporary building outside. And that was Vienna Elementary School. I went there one year. The second year my older siblings, I was one of five, and two of them were at Oakton so I went to the second grade in Oakton, Virginia to the elementary school there. For my third grade I came back to a new now standing Vienna Elementary School for third grade. And that's where I went to up to seventh.

**Mary:** Now did you walk to school, I mean how far was it from your home.

**Mayo:** A mile.

**Mary:** A mile?

**Mayo:** Yeah, well my wife got on me for saying that I rode for a nickel if I had a nickel. And she said we weren't that poor Mayo were you that poor? So I'd have to say we walked and we rode the streetcar depending on a lot of things. In good weather if we walked we would probably walk a mile.

**Mary:** Alright.

**Mayo:** It wasn't such a hardship.

**Mary:** After 7<sup>th</sup> grade then on to high school?

**Mayo:** I went to high school at Oakton Virginia where... I went to Oakton Virginia High School. And they had built a high school about 1922 – so this was in 1929 the fall of maybe the fall of 1928. Which made me there the years of 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931 and I graduated in 1932 from Oakton High School. And we had a very good basketball team that year and won a state championship for our size high school.

**Mary:** And were you on the team?

**Mayo:** I was manager.

**Mary:** Oh, good.

**Mayo:** I wasn't very big I was a slow bloomer. (Laughing). The coach lived at our house for a while. And he's the only guy that had a car. Oh, maybe one or two families had cars but we at that time had trouble getting the whole team to a school for basketball away like Falls Church – Lee Highway, Lee Jackson down near Alexandria. And then they had a high school at Clifton and Herndon, and Oakton was a high school.

**Linda:** And Oakton is now an elementary school.

**Mayo:** That's right, same spot; it burned during World War II about 1943.

**Mary:** Now I've heard that kids even like you came from Burke area and all that – came to Oakton High School because it was about the only school around.

**Mayo:** Well I want to try to – well they were at Clifton – well Burke – no Burke would have had Lee Jackson which is now other schools kinds of schools down there. But Lee Jackson High School was just this side of Alexandria on number Rt.7.

**Mary:** On Rt. 7?

**Mayo:** On Rt. 7 – that's right. Now I went there because I played baseball there. But we went there for basketball games. So Burke, I guess if they had been Burke students they would have gone to Lee Jackson. And it wasn't until later that all the high schools were built down there.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** Many, many. But I'm talking about the 1930's.

**Mary:** Did you walk to school when you went to Oakton?

**Mayo:** Well I did some; well I rode as the manager with the coach who lived at our house for that year. And then there was a young man who lived over on number seven who was courting my older sister and she worked in Fairfax and he worked in Fairfax so I got a ride to Oakton when he came by to pick up my sister to take her to work. So I got the ride and then I wasn't above hitch hiking; not early but high school it was easy.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** And then I did find a man who lived in Vienna and worked in Fairfax and I would coincide my departure from home about the time he should be coming by. I'd be down on the highway and he'd pick me up. There are various ways to get there. And the streetcars still ran; we could go over to Chilcots stop and go to Oakton to Sanger, a stop for Oakton and walk down a kind of a rough gravel road to the high school. But I don't remember doing that very much.

**Mary:** But you – so it was a nickel a ride?

**Mayo:** Well from my house to Vienna.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** It was probably a little more probably a dime.

**Mary:** Yeah.

**Mayo:** I don't remember. But the streetcar service ran until about 1938 so it would have been well by my 1932 graduation.

**Mary:** Do you remember anything outstanding, you said your high school won the State championship in basketball; anything else you remember of your high school year's sports or academics or anything.

**Mayo:** Well we had a teacher Miss Sneed who came in for I guess sophomore, junior and senior grades, three grades. She came in and then straightened the school up a little bit. Prior to that we'd had another gentleman principle and he had a brother whose was principle in Fairfax. They had a one year high school in Fairfax and then they moved them down as sophomores to Oakton. And he was a



little more lax I guess because when – Oh Miss Sneed came in and she was a little bit impaired physically. So they moved the high school down to the first floor and put the elementary school on the second floor. So they flipped the school that year. Which no big deal but that's when it happened if somebody says well I went to the first floor or the second floor well it depends on what grade you're in and what year it was because they flipped the whole school to accommodate her. And she was a cousin of Mr. Woodson who was Superintendent of schools.

**Mary:** W.T. Woodson?

**Mayo:** Right Wilbert – did you say W.P.?

**Mary:** T. – W. T. as in Tom I don't know what T. stands for. Was it W.T. Woodson?

**Mayo:** I doubt it I don't think that's right.

**Mary:** I could be wrong on that.

**Mayo:** Yeah. Well I think it's more like D.

**Mary:** Okay.

**Mayo:** And it's down on number 7 today.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** The high school down there.

**Mary:** Yeah. So they put the high school so she could control them better is that the reason?

**Mayo:** Say again.

**Mary:** They put the high school on the ground floor so she had more control?

**Mayo:** No, not for control at all cause she couldn't negotiate the steps.

**Mary:** She couldn't go up the steps – I see - okay.

**Mayo:** I remember no, no control factor with her.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** We had trouble controlling her.

**Mary:** Yeah.

**Mayo:** No, she was a strong character. She had come from McLean, Franklin Sherman School in McLean and I guess they moved her maybe for – what's the word for control of students?

**Mary:** Discipline?

**Mayo:** Discipline, disciplinary reasons.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** She probably had moved there – she came in and those kids who had been trouble makers the previous year just didn't come back to school.

**Mary:** Cause they heard she was there or whatever?

**Mayo:** Well they maybe got letters.

**Mary:** Oh I see.

**Mayo:** I don't know.

**Mary:** They may have been told not to come back.

**Mayo:** So it was a way of; well they were about ready to drop out anyway. I shouldn't say. So they may have been ready to drop out – that's all I'll say.

**Mary:** Can you describe for us cause we're so use to townhouses and shopping centers and four lane roads and stuff like that can you just describe for us what Vienna was like since you've lived here.

**Mayo:** Vienna was connected to Fairfax Courthouse by a gravel road Rt. 123 when I was born. When I was about five in 1920 or so 19, 1920 they did a black top road as we call it today. But in those days we called it

**Linda:** Macadam.

**Mayo:** Macadam and that was named for a Scotsman who developed the roadway that would be backed clay and covered with tar and gravel to keep the water away from it. And as long as the water was away from under ah whatever Virginia clay – as long as the water didn't reach it, it was beautiful. But if they had holes or anything it would deteriorate very fast.

But we lived on a Macadam road. Our – in our phone book we use to be Mrs. S.C. Stuntz Macadam Road, Vienna, Virginia and that was our address Macadam Road. And you were supposed to know it.

**Mary:** Which road that is.

**Mayo:** Yeah, so and we didn't have house numbers in those days that I recall. But ah we had the hard road, the black top put in to Fairfax and that made it very nice. There was a phenomenon of Washington, D.C. drivers use to come out Lee Highway to Falls Church on Lee Highway. And that road to Fairfax was built in 1922 or 1923 – Lee Highway. So it was nice to come out on a nice Sunday afternoon drive to Fairfax and have a meal or whatever. You'd go back on Chain Bridge Road which was blacktop. So they had a good hard road that they could be sure of getting back at a certain time. And that was a favorite trip and you'd see a lot of traffic that way.

Ah, commuters had a time because the streetcar stopped running in 1936 so that was later in 1932, 1933 or 1934. The streetcar was running between 12<sup>th</sup> and Pennsylvania Avenue down across the river at the mall bridge; I think that's also called the 14<sup>th</sup> street bridge and came out through Clarendon, and Falls Church and Vienna, Oakton and Fairfax. And it was hourly dependable streetcar service to Washington, D.C.

**Mary:** Now was it electric streetcar?

**Mayo:** Electric streetcar trolley.

**Mary:** Electric streetcar trolley, okay.

**Mayo:** Right.

**Mary:** And so many of the people in Vienna worked in Washington; is that what you're saying?

**Mayo:** Many of them, many of them built houses on the streetcar line or builders built on the streetcar line because if you had a job in Washington, and I know people who worked the whole time and retired and they still rode the streetcar in. That was a dependable ride and they were used to it.

Then we also had out in Vienna a steam line that went into Roslyn and that was very popular; it went into another spot first and then switched over and went into Roslyn. But a lot of people from up the country up to Leesburg and further rode that line, if they had a commuter job, to get to Washington.

**Mary:** So you're talking steam train?

**Mayo:** Right.

**Mary:** Steam train okay.

**Mayo:** And then there was a branch of that, I don't know where it branched off, to Great Falls for the tourists coming to Great Falls.

**Mary:** To go to the Park.

**Mayo:** To see the Park there, yeah.

**Mary:** Yeah, yeah.

**Mayo:** And there is a girl at the county who is writing a book about that line. There is a book of course about the Old Dominion where the trail is today. And they just obliterated and bought the right of way and they paved it and made, in McLean its Old Dominion Drive, in Vienna it's the bike trail; same line but different lines.

**Mary:** Right, right.

**Mayo:** But very popular and everybody's – why didn't they keep the streetcar line with the electric line because when the war came there was need for tires and gas and they were in short supply. And you didn't have public transportation, you had buses and that wasn't very good. So there were many, many, many carpools.

My sister rode in a carpool, worked for the FBI and she rode with a neighbor across the street, oh for a long, long time.

**Mary:** Now I'm confused because you're saying that because of the war the trolley car was stopped?

**Mayo:** No, it stopped before that.

**Mary:** It stopped, yeah but that was my question why did it stop in 1936?

**Mayo:** It stopped because I think the tire companies and the bus companies were doing all they could to knock the streetcar out.

**Mary:** Oh, I see.

**Mayo:** In order to sell their tires and their buses.

**Mary:** So it was competition. Yeah.

**Mayo:** I have no proof of that but it's complicated.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** And by then people were getting their own cars. And driving you own car to Washington, no trouble, no trouble parking in Washington. And you could pick up a couple of neighbors, two or three neighbors, and they would pay for your car by paying you for the ride every day.

**Mary:** Right. And it would take people maybe 20 minutes to get into Washington from Vienna?

**Mayo:** Longer than that.

**Mary:** Longer than that?

**Mayo:** Yeah, oh yeah.

**Mary:** Cause of the stops?

**Mayo:** Yeah. Well, we use to figure an hour.

**Mary:** Oh really, okay.

**Mayo:** Yeah, because you, because of traffic and Lee highway was not all that good. Chain Bridge Road was fair but then you had to negotiate Chain Bridge, Chain Bridge, Chain Bridge – oh Canal Road, Canal Road from Chain Bridge Road to down town in 38<sup>th</sup> to 39<sup>th</sup> street. So that was another bottle neck when I use to commute. I worked for CIA but the downtown office and we use to go in that way sometimes and it was slow. In modern time I'm talking about.

**Mary:** Now besides the people who worked downtown what did other people work at – I mean were there farms here in Vienna?

**Mayo:** Okay, yeah there were farms and there were orchards. Ah well I don't remember I think 1925 there's some book about development in Fairfax County and I think we shipped more milk than any other county. I'm not positive of that but I think that's right – but that slowly changed because of the manager - the dairy industry hired a man to check every dairy farm for the milk fat content of the milk as it was milked. And he would go around and check the fat content of the milk to find out how rich it was or whatever. Well he was a man, who was later selected to run Ravensworth,

**Mary:** Oh, really.

**Mayo:** Ralph Spray. So that's how come we knew him. But that was so important to the milk producers of Fairfax County to know the quality of milk they were getting. And I guess other things would tell them how many gallons or how many pounds – however they reported it.

But there were small dairy farms that were still popular in the, I guess middle thirties.

**Mary:** Now you said you worked for the CIA. What did you do after High School did you go

**Mayo:** Okay, after high school – I graduated 1932 I worked for Chilcot Brothers Orchard which was behind our house. They had a 180 acre farm of apples, peaches and grapes; and they had the farm there and I could work almost any time I wanted for 15 cents an hour, which is pretty cheap I think it's a dollar twenty a day or something. And I worked for them that fall when I didn't go back to school. I finished 1932, I finished the fall of 1932, I still worked for Chilcot's and then it was the – I was 17 I guess. I graduated and then I was going on 18.

A neighbor Mr. Rice whose daughter I dated a little bit – he had two daughters, pretty – ah, he was related to the wife of the owner of the Leesburg Inn. And the Leesburg Inn was a small country hotel. It had no elevators, two floors about 20 or 30 rooms, I forget. But he told me that Mrs. Cunningham who was the widow of the owner who died, that she needed someone to help in the hotel to drive her one thing and to help handling the baggage of guests for the Leesburg Inn. She was pretty well, she had a manager, a young lady, and then she had colored help and everything. So I went on the next day after he told me. He called me and said Mayo Mrs. Cunningham is looking for a young man to help in the Leesburg Inn. So I went down to Vienna caught the train to Leesburg and walked up the street and got a job. She said come back next Saturday.

So the end of September 1932, yeah ah it must have been the next year cause I was 18 my next birthday 1930, 1933 I would have been 18. So I went up there at age 17.

**Mary:** Then you became her driver?

**Mayo:** Became her driver – her husband had had a swanky car LaSalle convertible coupe with the big tires on each side and a soft top. When I would take Mrs. Cunningham down – she had a sister in Clarendon who she visited – and when she visited she'd turn me loose. And I'd go pick up my brother who worked at the

Smithsonian. The first thing he'd do is put the top down and we would go on a ride to Vienna.

**Mary:** What color was that coupe?

**Mayo:** Black, severe black. It was really something.

**Mary:** I wanted to ask you when you said you worked at the orchard and got 15 cents a day was that

**Mayo:** An hour.

**Mary:** Yes, 15 cents an hour, I sorry 15 cents an hour was that picking fruit or what was your job?

**Mayo:** Well I didn't – they had men to pick fruit. I ah drove a truck taking the fruit in to the packing house. That was one of my jobs. Ah, the other was – well I did a lot of things for them. Ah, I didn't pick much, I cut grapes. Cutting a grape is ah you have a stand for your basket and you walk along the rows and with scissors and clip grapes. So I cut grapes for them. I didn't pick peaches or pick apples for them that was done by the men who made two dollars a day. They got a lot of money. They got 25 cents an hour for an eight hour day.

**Mary:** Wow, now okay, after the Leesburg Inn then

**Mayo:** Okay, Leesburg Inn.

**Mary:** How many years were you there?

**Mayo:** Just a year.

**Mary:** A year.

**Mayo:** A little over a year. I went to Washington, D. C. and went to the Raleigh Hotel 824 rooms as I recall and became an elevator operator. Eighteen years old elevator operator and I had to some municipal building and get an operator's license to run an elevator; and all you did was pull the handle. But I did that for about a year.



**Mary:** Did you wear a uniform? That's what I envision in the old movies they had uniforms on you know.

**Mayo:** I don't remember, although I think you've got a point there because somewhere along the line I had to put on a bluish coat. Probably I had dark trousers and a blue coat or something. So I probably was in uniform.

But I ran the elevator for a little over a year and then there was an opening in the front office. So I asked for it, considered and accepted. So I moved to the front office which made me a room clerk. So I didn't do much of that really because guys would come in and want a room and see that I was eighteen or nineteen and not equipped to dicker with them how undignified. So I did not room people that way but I supported the room clerk and the cashiers. When they went to lunch I handled it and all it was, was handling the keys when they came in and turning the keys in and seeing the people. We saw a lot of celebrities; it was a nice hotel 12<sup>th</sup> and Pennsylvania Avenue. But I stayed there three years. And then I had a cousin and his father was a cousin of my father; so it was not close; his name was Lyle Halverson, owned a hotel in Wilmington, North Carolina. He called me and said Mayo are you interested in an out of town hotel? And I said not much, he said come and see me; he worked in Washington. And I went to see him and he said I have this 150 room hotel in Wilmington, North Carolina. I'd never heard of it, that Wilmington at that point. So it ended up in my taking a job in Wilmington, North Carolina. So in 1936 I rode a day coach to Wilmington, North Carolina and went to work in the Cape Fear Hotel and I stayed there and went to what do you call it? All the hotels had a meeting, everybody in the business would send representatives and I guess they were associations of hotels but a guy from Cornell attended one meeting and I talked to him about going to Cornell and he said well I would think so. I was 23 I think at that time because I went to Wilmington at 16 and I stayed there. But anyway I was finally accepted at Cornell in 1939. I went to Cornell University the fall of 1939 which made 1940 my first year. And so I came home from Wilmington and went to Cornell to the hotel school. And it was fun because I had had seven years by then experience in hotel work. But always front office; not kitchen and not rooms or cleaning, but front office or sales I didn't work in that. So it was just a fun job in my seven years I had

worked in hotels. And my competitors in school peers not competitors peers in school a great many of them prep school graduates that were good families, hotel families and they were going to graduate from Cornell and run a hotel right away, you know at a young age. Well I knew that didn't happen that way but I never said too much. But I went there two years and it was at the first part of my second year in 1940 that I had to register for the federal draft. We had a federal draft spurred by Mr. Roosevelt probably.

So in 1940 on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of October the day after my, what would 1940 have been, I guess 25<sup>th</sup> birthday I signed up for the federal draft. And I signed up, something I had to do, plus where from cause we were students. So I registered as a Fairfax County so I got a letter two weeks later; congratulations you are invited to a patriotic rally. Your number is one of the first 50 in the county in the recent draft. Well I was in school and it was not Thanksgiving, I went home at Thanksgiving and went to see the draft board and I said I'm in school. Don't worry finish your school year. So I did that.

And so in 1941 I came home having finished two years at Cornell; and had run out of money incidentally. And I went to see the draft board and they said our next draft is 25 June 1941. And I said well I wouldn't mind going. He said well you're going. So I said okay; so I went to Washington and talked to a couple of hotels about a job and they said what's your draft status? Those were the buzz words "draft status". And I said I am acceptable, liable for the draft. We don't want you. So I went back to the draft board and I said hey I'd like to go ahead if I could. So then they called me and said we've got somebody that wants to be deferred. That was another very nice buzz word "deferred". If you got drafted that was okay, just defer you. And if they deferred you long enough the war would be over. Well they said we can take you now 25 June.

So 25 June I joined the army, went to Fort Lee south of Richmond. Stayed there a couple of days and then went to Fort Riley Kansas by train non air-conditioned train, day coach. And that was the Calvary School, United States Calvary. Saw a couple of other guys who knew me from Vienna. So I had three months basic training on horseback. And then I got sent to an outfit in Texas; the 112<sup>th</sup> Calvary

Regiment which was a Texas National Guard outfit. And I was sent after three months at Fort Riley I was sent to Fort Clark and Lee had been there. Lee as a young officer had been there, General Lee. So Fort Clark was an old place and it was right on the El it was east of El Paso; what's the river?

**Mary:** Rio

**Mayo:** Well anyway the river is someplace where all the Mexicans are coming across these days. But we were there and I was there when the War broke out. And the day that the war broke out 7 of December 1941 I had completed my papers for officer candidate school. And I had taken them over to my bosses house; he lived off on the - not campus – Fort – what do you call it.

**Mary:** A base.

**Mayo:** Base, he had a house on the base. And I walked over and sent my papers in for him to sign- by his wife he was ill. Well wasn't that ill, but ill. And his wife took them in and he had to sign them or place I do or do not recommend this man for OCS. So he signed it correctly, thank goodness. And so I turned it in, well this was the 7<sup>th</sup> of December and ah, those things cook for a while; and then around the first of the year my name came up as one of the guys going to – back to Fort Riley to Officer Candidate School.

So back I went to Fort Riley to Officers Candidate School for three months. And then on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May, March I was commissioned Second Lieutenant in the United States Calvary. And within a month I was out on the west coast in an outfit called the Seventh Motorized Division. They had taken a regular division and made a motor I mean put them in vehicles. So we made maneuvers that year in the California desert and that was good training cause we got a little hardened and got use to taking orders and giving orders.

And then that was the fall that the United States landed in Africa on its' way to France really. But they didn't have the losses they expected so our division was ready hardened and ready to go as a motorized division. But they didn't need it anymore because they had landed in Africa without too much loss. And then they hadn't moved into France yet. So we were taken, they took our motors away

from us. And we became the Seventh Division United States Army. So we as a, we had been a reconnaissance squadron and without the motors we didn't need a squadron we only need a troop. So they took Troop A with them and we were left high and dry; so

**Mary:** Still in California?

**Mayo:** We were down in Texas.

**Mary:** Texas, okay.

**Mayo:** And then in May of 1943 I was sent to San Francisco to represent my unit as the supply officer; to be sure that everything that we had ordered to go over with us over on shipment, we didn't know where we were going. We brooded about that it was going to be Australia.

So I got up there on the fourteenth of May, 1943 we left and then all my unit they had leave because they weren't going to go out until six weeks or so. I didn't hear anything about leave, I was in San Francisco working every day and I never did get leave.

Well then on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 1943 they came down the river on riverboats and I was already in San Francisco so I just went out and met them and went aboard and we sailed to Australia or somewhere. We went to Australia by zig sagging for the whole time; because the theory was on this troop ship that if Japanese submarines saw you and knew which direction you were going they could say that within so many minutes you'd be somewhere else of course. But if you were zig sagging they wouldn't know that; so we zig zagged for about two weeks. And then we headed to Brisbane and we went up the river in Brisbane and landed there.

**Mary:** This in all in Australia?

**Mayo:** Yep, yep.

**Mary:** And then did you end the war there or did you go?

**Mayo:** Oh, no, no, glory me I just got started. So.

**Mary:** I want to ask a question so I don't forget. When you first went into the Cavalry had you ever been on a horse before?

**Mayo:** Yeah.

**Mary:** You had been, oh I, okay, so it wasn't something new.

**Mayo:** No, it wasn't new; I wasn't an expert. I have a granddaughter now who is one of the highest rated riders in Virginia. Her name is Grace Stuntz and she goes to UVA and she has two horses down at school with her. But they are a horse family and her mother runs her own law firm. My daughter in law runs her own law firm so there isn't no doubt about money or anything. She wants to take two horses and then for moving a horse to a show place a trainer comes in with a travel unit, loads up the horse, takes it deposit and she helps clean it up and gets it ready and she shows um.

**Mary:** Wow.

**Mayo:** And she turns it back to the trainer and she gets in her car and he gets in his car and takes the horse for wherever it is at the barn.

**Mary:** Well let's get back to your War experience now you were in Australia in 1943.

**Mayo:** 1943. I got a note one day would you volunteer for a, not a mission but training up in New Guinea and I said sure and someone else was asked the same question. Well then that was the adjutant one below the CEO, the commanding officer, and he said no don't do it this way ask most everybody not just a couple guys will you go. Ask a lot of people so we would say disregard what you said - on a piece of paper write your name and yes or no do you volunteer. And they selected us after all.

So I got word to go to New Guinea to join Six United States Army under a gentleman by the name of General Kruger and General Kruger had made a big name in the maneuvers down in Louisiana that fall. And then he went back to San Antonio to his headquarters Fort Sam Houston. And General Kruger was called on by General McArthur to send him out because General McArthur as you all

probably know was quite a showman and he didn't want anybody battling with him about showmanship.

So he got General Kruger who was not a west born but a German born guy who was very, very good. So he got General Kruger and General Kruger was given command of the Sixth United States Army up in New Guinea. So got sent up to New Guinea I did with a fellow officer and we went to a little outpost across from headquarters.

Headquarters was on Good Enough Island and it was off the coast of New Guinea. Then there was another little island called Ferguson; and on Ferguson there was a Navy unit where they were training people to be beach masters; a guy who would come in with the landing of troops and run the beach facilities as they were coming in. If there was a hold up by a boat or something here he'd get the boat to come where it could come; and he just handled beach.

So they were training beach masters and they were training guys to go in and make fake landings and then they were teaching guys to go in to do intelligence. So I fell in that group of doing research for landings. So this was just a haphazardly run outfit by a guy named Commander Coultas in the Navy – who had been a bird man out in that area as his cover for being intelligence against the Japanese.

**Mary:** He'd been a what kind of man?

**Mayo:** C-o-u-l-t-a-s Coultas.

**Mary:** No, no but you said he had been a bird man?

**Mayo:** Yeah, he was collecting birds.

**Mary:** That was his cover?

**Mayo:** Yes,

**Mary:** Okay.

**Mayo:** He was collecting birds.

**Mary:** Like a scientist?

**Mayo:** Yeah, yeah and ah he was collecting birds

**Mayo:** A reserve naval officer. I think he was Lt. Commander Coultas. And a very nice guy but we didn't do anything. And that suited me fine; well I went out one time, I went out for three days just to live in the bush. And we walked for two or three hours and got around the other side of our island and we didn't establish any guards or anything another guy and I just made a fire up and I shot a wild hen and cleaned it and cooked it and so we ate. We were supposed to live on it.

**Mary:** Like survival.

**Mayo:** If we could, yeah in the jungle. And we picked whatever was ripe.

**Mary:** Yeah.

**Mayo:** You know bananas or stuff.

**[Recording Paused]**

**Mayo:** I went up to the islands to join the Sixth Army; we were wondering about OSS, Offices of Strategic Services were they going to come out that way or not. Well there was an incident when a couple of Army Lieutenants pulled a mission for the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Navy picked those two men up and took them to Middle Bay and debriefed them. And Navy got all the credit and the Army General heard that two of his Army men assigned to the Navy had done this and he said that's a hell of a way to run a war.

So he was determined to get those people back in his control. So he established a place know as the Alamo Scout Center. And Alamo Scouts Center comes from the word of the Alamo in San Antonio. And he was connected, I think this is the way this went, McArthur told him to establish his own outfit to counter OSS; and do the work that OSS was doing under General Donovan and General Krueger would do it in this area.

And this stems from General McArthur and General Donovan being opposite each other in World War I and they wouldn't speak to each other and they were at

odds. So it was a very normal thing for McArthur to establish something to counter the Office of Strategic Services under General Donovan. We are living here with generations of uninterest in each other is the nicest way of saying it.

So when he published the order to have the Alamo Scouts Center he said now I'm Army Commander I can say Alamo Scouts Training Center and do anything I want at the training center. And so he did.

And he established he gave the job to a General Colonel Bradshaw, a Mississippi lawyer who was very, very smart. And he said I want you to establish this training base and train these scouts and the object was, oh there was a happening up in the Aleutian Islands where an island was bombarded by the Navy for 24 hours; and then they landed and there was nobody there. There was one Japanese soldier. It was a deserted island but we didn't know it. So the Navy bombarded. So General Krueger then said I don't want to do that before I land I want to know what's happening.

So the Alamo Scouts Training Center was set up to train guys, normal soldiers, selected – normal soldiers to go into an area we were going to land on and come back out and report to the commanding officer what he saw. Then he would know if it's deserted – if he knows it's deserted we just walked in.

**Mary:** It's like the scouts of the wagon trains.

**Mayo:** Right.

**Mary:** Okay and so they were scouting.

**Mayo:** Yeah, and so the Alamo Scouts did this and we had a very good record. There was a book written about it and everything and I'm in it. I helped the guys set up the camp and I went on just one mission. So that's what I did in the war. I was the supply officer for the Alamo Scouts Training Center and I got to Luzon as the war wound its way north I was taken out of the Alamo Scouts and put in charge of all the gorillas on Luzon in their training. And Luzon's a great big island and there are a lot of gorilla units there that were or had been developed or developed themselves into opposition to the Japanese.



So they needed supplies to continue fighting the Japanese. So that's what I did during the war; and then when the war ended I went to Japan and stayed there until the fall of that year and then came home.

**Mary:** So fall of 1945.

**Mayo:** Yeah. "Home alive in 1945".

**Mary:** Oh, very good.

**Mayo:** That was our mission. And we started saying that in 1942 and 1943. We didn't stay home until we got overseas and then we started saying home alive.

**Mary:** Wow.

**Mayo:** So came home and was discharged in the early part of 1946 and do you want to stay in the reserves? Yes – so I stayed in the reserves which didn't mean anything in those days; reserves were paper outfits.

But I went back, I had written to the owner of Statler Hotels whose brother the president of Statler Hotels was Arthur Douglas; his brother was William O. Douglas Supreme Court Judge. And in Wilmington North Carolina when I worked at the Catria Hotel Bill Douglas came down to our hotel and went hunting for whatever he went hunting for and then came back to the hotel, slept until he went out hunting again. Well he was there because Mr. Roosevelt appointed him to the Supreme Court so he was in the lobby and talking about what he was doing.

I walked out from behind the desk and said Mr. Douglas I want to congratulate you on your appointment. Oh, thank you, thank you very much – well he had no idea of who I was except he'd known me behind a desk that's all. Well this came up later when he came to the Washington Statler to use a phone. He had to come in but he wouldn't take a phone – we'd offer him a room if he wanted to go up and use a room; and no, no he'd go to a phone booth. So he was doing something we didn't know what. But I ran into Bill Douglas – first oh, oh, to connect with his brother – I wrote to his brother because I had worked one year when I was at Cornell at Pennsylvania hotel in New York and that's a Statler,

Pennsylvania Six Five Thousand is a Statler Hotel but they don't advertise it that way; just the Pennsylvania Hotel. So I worked there one summer between my years of 1940 and 1941. The year 1940 I guess, the summer 1940 yeah because the next year was 1941 because that's when the war started. So I had one year of one summer of working for the Pennsylvania Hotel in New York. So on that basis I wrote to Mr. Douglas at the end of the war; I'm coming home I'd like to be considered for a job again. And he wrote back – he said (he probably didn't see the letter) that we don't owe you anything we're not obligated to take you back because you were a summer employee. Okay, when I got back in 1946, 1945, in 1946 I went to New York to see my sister. She had come home from Argentina when she lived and I saw her off and went to see the president of the Statler, said I'm Mayo Stuntz I wrote you a letter. Oh yeah. I said well I live near Washington, D.C. and I would like a job with Statler again. So we'll see what we can do. And I don't know if they told me then that there was a job or I knew in Washington that there was a job. But whichever way it was I went to the Washington Statler as a clerk in the front office; and didn't make much money cause the hotel didn't pay much money. But you still worked six days a week and it didn't make any difference if it was a holiday or Sunday or anything else when your time came to work you worked.

So, I went to work for the Statler in Washington and lived in Vienna and opened Merry Go Round again. Merry Go Round had been rented during one summer. And my mother was coming home; she was visiting my sister down in Newport News somewhere. So mother and I opened Merry Go Round and we lived there. And I guess I lived there – Oh

**Mary:** I have a question because you're saying Merry Go Round and I'm envisioning carrousel.

**Mayo:** Say again.

**Mary:** You're saying Merry Go Round and I'm envisioning carrousel.

**Mayo:** Well that was our house.

**Mary:** Yeah, that's an unusual name for a house. How did that get that name?

**Mayo:** Well that's another thing that I don't know if it makes any difference – we had a visitor one time at our dining room table and we had a dog that was a little insistent and came in and probably bothered people who were eating. And mother said Mayo will you put the dog out. I went to the back door and put the dog out. I came back to the table. The dog went down the basement and came up the basement steps, came through the door and was there again. And my mother said put the dog out. So I did the same thing only shut the door. And our guest, a lady guest said well this is like a merry go round and mother said, we had called it Sunrise, our house when my father had it built because we were on a little higher hill than normal and we could see from our house and we can today see Tysons; all the buildings at Tysons. So we are kind of high. So that's how Merry Go Round got its name. (Laughing)

**Mary:** Well let's get to your history endeavors.

**Mayo:** Okay.

**Mary:** Okay, first of all tell us, you know, I know that you were one of the founders of the Landmark Commission.

**Mayo:** Okay.

**Mary:** People don't know what that is. So if you will give us the background of that.

**Mayo:** Ah, fast forward to 1965, I was still collecting pictures I had started to collect pictures of any house in Fairfax County that I could find that had a name. I would read all the books I could on Fairfax County and if I saw a name in there and they are usually in italics or some other way to designate them as a better known house. So I was collecting pictures of houses in Fairfax County and particularly pictures in Vienna, Virginia. I wanted if I could get a picture of each house that ever stood on Chain Bridge Road in Vienna. And that was quite a thing; I'd have to go to children or grandchildren of people and get pictures that way or beg, borrow or steal.

**Mary:** So you aren't going to the Libraries you are going directly to the source to the families; right okay.

**Mayo:** We didn't have a Suzanne Levy. (Librarian at the Virginia History Room Fairfax County Public Library who retired in 2012).

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** And that's very important. We didn't have a picture collection in pride county. Oh, all that hadn't started yet. So I was fair game anything I wanted. And so Bayard Evans who ran the Inn, I got to know him through and unusual thing. And I got a letter from him in 1965; he was starting a Landmarks Preservation Committee. Two brothers who are in the House of Representatives from Arizona or somewhere they were tall lanky men and I tried to think of their name yesterday so I could tell you all. But one of them used to eat with Mr. Evans all the time and he and Bayard Evans talked and he was saying that there were so many of these big properties being sold off – big property farms, dairy farms and they would tear the house down and develop it. So, what you ought to do is try to save those houses those older houses. So, Bayard Evans had this idea of a Landmark Preservation Committee verses commission because we as citizens could start a commission. And that's when we went to the Board of Supervisors and Virginia had not passed enabling legislation down in Richmond which they did in 1969, to allow each county to have a History Commission. So when they got that legislation passed and Fairfax was allowed to form a commission Bayard Evans, he was Republican, he went to the Board of Supervisors and said take us in as a commission. So fine, we on the Landmarks Preservation Committee became the Commission. So Bayard had contacted me in 1965 and I said yes I'll help you. Well now this is backwards, we are going backwards now. We're not up to the commission.

We were the Landmarks Preservation Committee and we met once a month at Bayard Evans place. And we were very interested in locating and finding out about older houses and sites in the county. Landmarks Preservation Committee so we did that and I had started my hunt for older houses with names mostly because they stood out; like Ravensworth and like others. And so I felt very

comfortable working with that group. We had a few men, Jack Durham was one, a guy named Haynes was another and a lot of women, mostly women who were very interested.

**Mayo:** And ah, so they said come in as a commission. It was quite a simple thing to do come in as a commission.

**Mary:** Now how big was the committee that is approximately how many?

**Mayo:** Oh, 15 or 20.

**Mary:** 15 or 20.

**Mayo:** And that's big because everybody wouldn't come every month.

**Mary:** Right. And where did you meet?

**Mayo:** At Bayard Evans.

**Mary:** Now is this Evans Farm?

**Mayo:** Evans Farm

**Mary:** Evans Farm, so you met at their Evans Farm Inn or

**Mayo:** Yes, well I don't remember any food. He encouraged people of course and he made good friends with some of our members of the committee because they ate with him. Connie and I didn't go out that much so we didn't get to know him that way but we got to know him as a friend.

But the Landmark Preservation Committee continued on, 1965 that's when it was established 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, and in 1969 is when they became a Commission. And then that was unusual because I had been chairman of the nominating committee several times to keep us going. And this ties into something else. Ah, so I got to know and we did not limit membership to Fairfax County. There was a woman named Josephine Cobb who worked for Archives and she was active in the Historical Society of Washington, D.C., it was called Columbia Historical Society doesn't tell you where it is. And so they've changed it

since then to the Historical Society of Washington, D.C. But in those days it was Columbia and Joe Cobb met with us once a month. And one time after I got to know them she said Mayo would you like to buy the negatives of the Shannon's? Well J. Harris Shannon had worked for the Washington Star starting about 1895 until 1927 when he died. So we bought, she said I will sell you his negatives. Because he had published negatives for 25 years, published pictures of old places in eastern Virginia and written them up. So I was well aware of his writings. I didn't know about his glass negatives that were available. And she said I'll sell you his glass negatives from historical society cause we want to get Virginia type things and Maryland's. We don't want those we want money to publish his pictures of the District. So I said well Joe I would be delighted to buy his pictures, his negatives thinking he had 12 or 15; so I said how many do you have. Well first I said I'll give you a dollar a piece for whatever you have big deal. Well she said 500.

**Mary:** Oh, my.

**Mayo:** So I had to go home that night and tell Connie I had contracted for 500 dollars' worth of glass negatives. And we saw recently cleaning up where Connie took out 300 dollars from her savings to help me with my 200 bucks to get the 500 we needed to pay for these negatives. This was 45 or 50 years ago.

**Mary:** Oh, my goodness.

**Mayo:** And we got them. And they were in nicely handled envelopes and we didn't know what to do with them. It wasn't till some years later that I took one to a photographer and he developed it but it was unusual and he had trouble. But they came out so beautifully these glass negatives were very nice.

**Mary:** Where are they today?

**Mayo:** We gave them to the Library.

**Mary:** Oh, okay.

**Mayo:** In Fairfax and they're filed there and we've got a ten year hold on pictures. So that's where they are. But we had the pictures and we didn't know

quite what to do with them. And then Brian Conley who use to work for Levy had a friend or somebody who contacted or had lunch with him and she heard through somebody that Mayo had a picture of her house up at Great Falls. Well she called Brian and Brian said may I bring a lady by to see her picture of the house that she now owns in Great Falls. And I said sure why not. She came by and I showed her the negative and I didn't realize it at the moment but I had, I had that picture printed.

So, I think this was the way this worked. She got home and wrote me a note to say how nice of you to let us see that picture. And I thought well nothing to that. And oh I know, I called her and said I have a print of that picture. I said it'll cost you \$100. She said I'll be there in 10 minutes. So over she came with a hundred bucks and bought that picture, one picture.

**Mary:** Wow.

**Mayo:** So, when Connie heard that and Connie knew what we had, this collection of 494 pictures turned out 500 pictures. She found out the interest in these pictures; well if you've seen the book This Was The Virginia, it starts in Rosslyn and goes all the way down to some little town below Colonial Beach and he went Jay Harris Shannon went on steam line or boats or any way he could get up and down the east coast here to take pictures. And he'd go and see a house or find out who lived there or something, set up his camera and he carried a big old fashion camera with plates. And he usually took 24 plates with him and they were always in a cover and you'd transfer them some way into the camera and then pull out the cover and they would be in place and then take your picture. So he did that up and down the coast. And collected all these prints and so that's what we bought.

**Mary:** So you're saying these pictures became the

**Mayo:** This Was Virginia.

**Mary:** Yeah, the backbone of the book

**Mayo:** Right.

**Mary:** That you and Connie produced.

**Mayo:** Connie did. Well Fairfax Library had a collection of J. Harris Shannon's articles and in some cases the pictures and in some cases not. Well Connie went to the Library and researched each picture, each article and wrote what he wrote if it were appropriate to name that picture. And so she prepared the book that way. Then we didn't know how to get it printed. We went to Northern Virginia Association for History and asked them if they wanted to help us a little bit; the book cost 66 thousand when it was published; 3000 copies.

**Mary:** And when was this published?

**Mayo:** About eight years ago I think. Probably the 1990's probably in 1990, I forget the time but 10 or 12 maybe 10 or 12 years ago. And we had three thousand copies made.

**Mary:** Wow.

**Mayo:** So it cost us 22 dollars and 22 cents apiece and we got 34 which isn't very good, it's only 8 dollars a book. The people who sell our book Barnes and Noble make us sell it to them; well they give us 30 bucks a copy and they get 50 bucks a copy. They make 20 bucks a copy.

**Mary:** Well isn't that something.

**Mayo:** And here we did the work

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** And we make eight. So, but that's the way it goes. Well in working on that book. First of all on the Vienna book somewhere along the line way before this last book and way before Tysons we were going to write a history of Vienna. Well I had read a lot and I wrote two or three pages in long hand about the history of Vienna as I knew it. Connie read it and said this isn't very good and our kids read it and said this isn't very good. So that set us back; so we started getting early pictures and I was determined to get a picture of every house that ever stood on Chain Bridge Road in Vienna. I came close but not a hundred percent.



And so I was collecting pictures and I was going around the county collecting pictures. And collecting whatever I could and taking pictures. I went down to Green Spring Farm and there was a man there that the F.B.I. was watching and I didn't know it at the time. But his father had gone to Cornell and had died in World War I and his widow gave 6 million dollars to Cornell for the Student Union. Now I've got to think of the Student Union's name. The Student Union at Cornell is, al shucks, well anyway I can't tell you. Well anyway his son who had been in London for a long time lived at Green spring Farm, if you know where that is.

**Mary:** Um hum.

**Mayo:** And I went there on my picture taking Sunday afternoon endeavors, knocked on the door Mr. \_\_\_\_ that name is almost here, it's a funny name cause when you use it as a noun the name of the building. Well I said Mr. so and so I'm with the Historical Society of Fairfax County. We had no, I can't think of one, we had no commission before that so I said I'm with the Fairfax County Historical Society and I was president for one term of two years and I said I'm taking pictures of houses in the county for record. So he said fine, fine wait a moment and I'll move my car. His car was sitting in front.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** So I walked around and I knew enough to take a head on picture and an end picture and a corner picture. He said come in before you leave. So I went in before I left and he gave me a big portfolio of pictures of Green spring Farm. He said take your choice. So I held myself down to one picture.

But later I learned that he was under surveillance by the F.B.I. so I was working for the bureau of the C.I.A. in those days. So somebody may have seen me go visit him

**Mary:** And wondered.

**Mayo:** And followed my license back to Vienna and said what the hell is he doing.

**Mary:** Laughing.

**Mayo:** But that was just a happenstance and I didn't put it together all at once.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** Because I didn't know that he was questionable.

**Mary:** Can you tell us about; I can't read your handwriting Linda.

**Linda:** Maplewood, it was on Rt. 7 – is that the name of the home that is no longer there?

**Mayo:** Yes, of course you could say that about a lot of houses.

**Mary and Linda:** Yes.

**Mayo:** No, Maplewood was a very interesting house and it's written up in our Tysons book probably best. Ah I don't remember J. Harry Shannon taking any pictures I don't know why he didn't. But in one of our books it's written up pretty well. And it was built fairly recently about 1880's or something. I think since 1875 since the war and quite a nice house and various people had lived there. And the last owners were a family of oh Ulfelder's. Dr. Ulfelder was a physician in Mexico City who probably waited on the American colony though I don't know this. He spoke Spanish I guess. But Dr. Ulfelder and his wife and two children lived in Mexico City. They bought Maplewood and they decided to come up here; Mrs. Ulfelder and the two kids to finish their education; their American education. So as far as I know they came probably and just went to high school here but I don't know that for sure. But they are young matrons, well not young matrons they are pretty old but there was one happenstance that I told somebody about. Mrs. Ulfelder was inspecting her farm one day and got to a barn away from the complex and she went in and there was an operating still.

**Mary:** In the barn?

**Mayo:** In the barn making whiskey. So we heard that from Mrs. Echols who was a friend of my mother's in Vienna. E-C-H-O-L-S. She was a grand, she was a daughter, let me get this right, yeah of Major Hine. And Major Hine had come here after the war and bought up land and he wasn't a bad guy but he did make

money on land purchases. E. Hine, E.O. Hine – I forget. Well Mrs. Echols and mother were very good friends. And Mrs. Echols heard about this episode well I was about 10 years old and I remember seeing a woman on horseback riding by our house going toward Fairfax. That's all a 10 year old boy saw – a woman on horseback. Later we heard this woman got, well we don't really know for sure but she went to Fairfax we know that. Saw the Commonwealth's Attorney which is what you do and say look somebody's been making, oh she got an action to destroy the still. Somebody has been making whiskey on my property and I want you to know it and it's not I. So you do that to keep your skirts clean and then I don't know what they did about the farm manager or whoever was doing it. But these were untold stories to us. We knew she had found the still and we knew she had destroyed it. They all knew that this woman went to Fairfax for a lady to ride by on horseback and the same lady knew that she went to the Commonwealth's Attorney and told him so, and then I saw her the same day. And we theorize this way she couldn't go to her farm manager and say I've got to go to Fairfax to the Commonwealth's Attorney because he would wonder why she was doing that. So she had to go independently you know. The farm manager would have evidently driven her.

**Mary:** Now this was during prohibition right? I'm guessing about the time period. So the still was definitely illegal.

**Mayo:** 1925.

**Mary:** Yeah, yeah.

**Mayo:** About, because I was about 10 or 12. That was just an aside.

**Mayo:** Ask me some more questions.

**Mary:** I wondered about Jeremiah Moore's house.

**Mayo:** Okay, Jeremiah Moore was an early Baptist minister and he lived at Moorefield over here and he was supposed to be touch with Jefferson or somebody, one of our guys, early leaders because we have letters to one of those guys dated Moorefield. Moorefield became somewhat the middle of controversy

about the Baptist at one time wanted to buy it or rent it and use it as their headquarters. And then some guy who was representing I think the Baptists and I thought that was kind of dumb he somehow didn't want to rent it from Vienna he somehow wanted to separate church and state.

**Mary:** Are you saying to rent his home the Moorefield's home, I mean Jeremiah Moore's home.

**Mayo:** Yeah.

**Mary:** Okay, so somebody wanted to rent the house.

**Mayo:** Well we tried to get him interested we wanted

**Mary:** Okay.

**Mayo:** We thought it would be good if somebody else ran it. We – it wasn't in Vienna; but Vienna changed its boundaries to include Moorefield. Which was a mistake in retrospect because if it had not been moved into Vienna by changing the boundary it was not picked up and moved it was moved by changing the borders of Vienna; if you're with me.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** It was included. And if it had stayed in the county the Park Authority would have gotten their hands on it and would have spiffed it up and made it a going concern like Sully. I'm Chairman of the Sully Foundation so I know what Eddie Wagstaff did. He got the county to buy or get the permission from the Federal Aviation that owned it, most of it and so we got it in public hands. Then the Park Authority was given responsibility for running it. And they did and are continuing to do a very good job of running Sully. And all we do is Eddie Wagstaff established a Sully Foundation Limited; and endowed it with twenty two hundred and fifty thousand dollars worth of Mead Paper stock. Well when he did that and established and didn't turn the money over turned the stock. I wasn't chairman then but they went to the money people, what do you call them – people that already have money – a big concern full of lawyers whatever, well its right down here. And they said oh, you've got to diversify your money. You can't hold all

that money in one stock because if it goes then you've lost your money. So you have to sell part of it and buy other stocks to diversify. So we did over the years and then finally the two hundred and fifty thousand dollars became a million dollars, but it took them about 12 or 15 years; whereas if we had kept it – that one stock we would have been millionaires long before.

**Mary:** So that wasn't very good advice.

**Mayo:** Just kept it.

**Mary:** Right, right I understand. Well, I want to get back to Jeremiah Moore, what time period are we talking about that he – his home was here?

**Mayo:** Well we think the house was built in the late 1790's.

**Mary:** 1790's.

**Mayo:** And Sully was built in 1794.

**Mary:** Okay.

**Mayo:** And the reason I remember that is that's my phone number 1794.

**Mary:** So when, so what happened to the Jeremiah Moore home?

**Mayo:** Well Vienna got it in its confines and then Vienna was I guess we probably traded and we gave some land ex-Sully, I mean ex-Moorefield. Moorefield was kept out on maybe less than an acre, and the rest of the land sold. With no strings attached to what we sold. This is the way I know it. And so the builders tightened down and built a whole lot of houses close to Moorefield, which made the people in Moorefield a little itchy about this spot that might be developed and be a tourist attraction. So they didn't like it and they had a councilman in those days Budro and Budro was close to that group of people and they kept telling him don't develop because there's no room, no place for buses to come in. They didn't want hordes of school children or something like that. So he wasn't too interested in it.

The whole, well we got Moorefield 25 or 30 years ago and Historic Vienna which is a historical society; Historic Vienna was given the job of protecting Moorefield. Well trees fell and punctured the roof and other things happened. So we had a guy working for the town who was quite good about keeping Moorefield up. He had an electrical connection out in the yard that he could handle and put a plug and take it in the house. And then the house would be lighted. But he didn't have electricity in the house all the time. So Mrs. McDermott got us a twenty five thousand dollar grant from the town from the state somehow to help us with Moorefield. But when we started talking about doing it over and fixing it up like Sully it was a hundreds of thousands; a lot of money. So it scared everybody away. And then it, we couldn't get the town; it came out we couldn't get the Town Council of Vienna interested in preserving Moorefield. No more money.

And we had people inspect it, I called a couple friends to come and see me and they came and said Mayo what a beauty, what a beauty – any talent I know in Virginia would be so happy to have such a nice place that they could work on and build up and admire and make a tourist attraction. But the Town Council lost interest. The Town Manager lost interest we think inspired by orders from the Town Council so the Town Manager wasn't too hot on it; and others weren't too hot. But Mrs. McDermott had gotten us \$25,000 which was a lot of money 20 or 30 years ago, and we thought it would help but it didn't help much.

Then somebody in the last years of private ownership, somebody had bricked it; had put a brick cover on the whole thing. So it became a brick house, but not very attractive. And so somewhere along the line the brick facing came off. The chimneys stayed the same. And they were supposed to be outstanding for their, it was 200 years old and the chimneys were nicely built. People who knew what they were talking about could describe them a lot better than I. But Moorefield was not to be kept so finally it was decided to tear it down. A man said he would take the house, he would tear it down piece by piece and mark the pieces and take the house and store it in one of his refrigerated vans. And we had about three years for Vienna to find a place to put it.

Well I got the Park Authority to come and look at a couple of places well near the basketball court on Courthouse Road and Nottoway, and Nottoway Park and we couldn't get the Park Authority interested in taking it or even accepting responsibility if we got it rebuilt. So the man kept it and he kept it and kept it. Finally some Baptist people got interested in it and they got it I understand removed from this man's control to a spot where the Baptist own a big lot of land and have conferences there.

**Mary:** It's in Lynchburg, Virginia

**Mayo:** What's that?

**Mary:** Lynchburg, Virginia

**Mayo:** Is that where it is?

**Mary:** Eagle Eyrie

**Mayo:** And then it was to be rebuilt right there.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** And I don't know if it has been rebuilt or not.

**Mary:** Wow.

**Mayo:** But then the man that owned it who took it – I don't know if he was going to be reimbursed or not. I don't know the financial arrangements there.

**Mary:** Was it a two story house or I mean

**Mayo:** A story and a half.

**Mary:** A story and a half.

**Mayo:** Yeah.

**Mary:** Okay, farm house?

**Mayo:** Yeah.

**Mary:** Yeah.

**Mayo:** About 1790's.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** Or older, nicely built. Jeremiah Moore lived there but he also lived up on Difficult Run and had a church up there. But they were mostly itinerants, they didn't stay one place one Sunday, I mean every Sunday one place. But every other Sunday or two Sundays a month or something and he would go like that I think. But he was a good guy and – but see he was before there was a U.S. and he

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** He ah some big leader of our Country saw him in jail and he said he didn't say Jesus Christ he probably said oh my God you've got a man in jail preaching the gospel or something. So he's noted for that. But Jeremiah Moore was a nice figure and local Moore's are related to him some distance back. We had a Margaret Moore marry Long L-O-N-G and she was a quite smart gal. But she kept a dumpy house.

**Mary:** Laughing – Not the Moorefield house though. Well can you tell us about your connection with the Flint Hill Cemetery?

**Mayo:** Yes, I will tell you a sad story, not really.

**Mary:** Another sad story.

**Mayo:** Yeah, not really, no. I came home from Japan, Connie and I were – I was called to active duty in 1955, 1955. Go on active duty and go to Tokyo in uniform, Lt. Colonel as a representative of C.I.A. So we went and we went with family which was a no, no in a way because that meant that you went under your own money; but we didn't go under our own money we went under C.I.A. money. But C.I.A. picked up the tab and sent us to Tokyo. I was, well, on the General Staff over there and represented. Another guy who had come from C.I.A. who was an Air Force officer, who had come to us on assignment C.I.A. and we had sent him



to Tokyo to represent C.I.A. Well he didn't really have a whole lot of background about C.I.A. but there he was. And we had two or three officers like this.

And I had asked to be sent overseas because I said if I go I'll come back and my expertise and experience that I get there, I'll bring back for the agency. Well this other guy came back and just a matter of principle, he came back and went back to the Air Force. So we didn't get any of his experience to rub off on the agency here. So I was accepted and I went and I arrived over there with family. And that was fine. I came back in 1957 and we have our meetings of the Flint Hill Cemetery – we now have it the first Saturday in May because by then things are up pretty well or started up. And we know more about what's going to happen to the grounds than if we meet in April. So I got back in June of 1957 and the meeting was of course over. We still owned our lots and my mother put a tomb stone up there for my father and myself and my brother. And we had buried our first child. Our first child was a daughter; she died at 22 months of cancer. We had buried her in the cemetery. So I came back and of course went to the cemetery and saw it and Mr. Blake who was running it, the family for whom Blake Lane is named and they came here about 1875. They were not originally from here but they came here from Scotland. And Mr. Blake went to our church Presbyterian Church and said Mayo we can't get people to come to these meetings. I said Mr. Blake I'll certainly come I'm interested. So next year's 1958 and I went to the meeting and got elected president.

**Mary:** And you're still president today.

**Mayo:** But what I didn't know at the time I was elected president the only thing I knew to do was run a meeting and be an owner a lot owner. And that's who owns that cemetery today. People say well people come and say do you have any vacant lots we want to buy a cemetery cause people are buying lots by cemeteries if they are half full and then they take the unfull lot and make a lot of money. I said well we don't have enough plots for you to be interested. So we figured out that the owners of Flint Hill Cemetery are the lot owners who own a piece of property 10 feet long and 39 inches wide. And there are four sites to a lot and that comes out four times 39 is 10 feet oh, 15 feet. So 15 feet this way and

10 feet head to toe and that's a lot and a piece of that is a site. Well I had to learn all this and I just learned it by doing it. And so we had somebody running the cemetery. Mr. Blake ran it for a while and then Gilbert Stewart ran it and his wife Alana and then they died or moved away and then a Mary Rinker got it. And Mary Rinker ran it I guess for 10 or 15 years doing what I'm doing; showing lots and collecting money and building the money up somewhat; not too much but some. And we didn't charge enough. And we also had to say perpetual care; because when cemeteries like this, like Flint Hill would soon, if you didn't have enough money to support it would soon fade because you didn't have vacant lots to sell there'd be no income. And if grandchildren or children of people buried there didn't pay a fee yearly you would run out of money. So we determined first thing to sell the lots with perpetual care built in. So today it's twelve hundred dollars per site. And we use to figure five hundred for the site and five hundred for perpetual care twelve hundred bucks – put it in the bank. Well then we had a treasurer a Mary Brandon whose treasurer and everything and we didn't know what to do with our money. We put it in the bank at four percent or something; well that wasn't very good. And then we got not too much money, but then when we got into it and found out what was happening and also we have yearly meetings; and if somebody packed the meeting and elected somebody else president that president could soon invade the treasury. That's what we were worried about. So we want to get it out of our hands so we looked around and we gave it to Scott and Stringfellow in Warrenton and they are owned by B.B. and T. now which is good. But Scott and Stringfellow got our money about six hundred thousand. Now it's eight hundred thousand. And it's going up and it's going to be a million someday.

But Herndon, Virginia had a cemetery, Fairfax, Virginia had a cemetery; they couldn't get dumb guys like me to run it so they gave it to the Town of Herndon and their money made a million dollars. So the Town of Herndon owns Chestnut Grove Cemetery now; that's good in public hands. And Fairfax did the same thing; I don't know how much money came with the cemetery. But we don't have anybody to give it too legally. I talked to the Mayor the other day, (Mayor Jane Seeman Town of Vienna) she's on my ushering team at church. And I said Jane

Seeman what would you do if I offered you Flint Hill cemetery? That's the town. I don't know.

**Mary:** (laughing) Nobody's asked her that before right?

**Mayo:** Yeah.

**Mary:** How old is this cemetery?

**Mayo:** 1831.

**Mary:** 1831, so it was started by family members in Vienna?

**Mayo:** Well not necessarily.

**Mary:** No?

**Mayo:** Probably people in Oakton.

**Mary:** Oh, in Oakton.

**Mayo:** Called Flint Hill at that time.

**Mary:** Okay.

**Mayo:** During the war it was Flint Hill and it's in all the Civil War battles as Flint Hill. But in about 1889 a guy named Smith, so I forget; he had a first name that's also a title. And I've never found out for sure which it is. Anyway he tried to get a Post Office named Flint Hill. And the Post Office Department wrote back there's a Flint Hill in Virginia already down in Rappahannock County select something else. So they looked at Oaks Corner, they looked at things that are hard to say. And then I went to archives and saw the request and they got a line through Oaks Corner something and somebody wrote in pencil O-A-K-T-O-N. So they called it Oakton.

**[Recording paused]**

**Linda:** Okay.

**Mary:** Is there a Flint Hill?

**Mayo:** No except the rocks in the area are flinty and where my house is built Merry Go Round which is this side (of Vienna) there's a stream or a seam of big rocks that we run into going to the county (Fairfax City). And next door to us on Flint Hill Road there are a bunch of big, big rocks that have been taken out of the ground and put aside. Now I've also felt in the old house sitting on the front porch if a truck went by and it hit a spot or it rumbled any I thought I could feel our house shake a little bit. I thought there was some movement on this seam of rock that was touching. Across the street when my father had the house built he contracted with the owner of this outcropping of rocks on what was originally the road from Comtemplation which was built in 1830 or 1840 out all the way to Flint Hill Road, I mean Courthouse Road. From Fairfax to the Cemetery is Courthouse Road; from the Cemetery on down to Vienna is Courthouse Road still the original. So Chain Bridge Road as we call it today from Vienna to the Cemetery was not built until 1893. So the Courthouse Road went through. And there was again I think in 1831, there is a plant that grows by itself, in the fall and there was a big outcropping of that plant and there was a Post Office named, well in case that plant was called Epsom it would be Epsom Downs but they used the name of that plant where the cemetery is today. Let me think. And that was it. And I'm sorry I can't recall that name.

**Mary:** Is there a difference between Flint Hill Cemetery and Oakton Cemetery?

**Mayo:** There is no such thing at Oakton Cemetery.

**Mary:** There is no Oakton Cemetery.

**Linda:** The Cemetery next door at the church is called?

**Mayo:** I don't – Church of the

**Linda:** Brethren.

**Mayo:** The Brethren church is it Church of the Brethren or Brethren Oakton church Oh, Brethren Oakton, the Brethren Oakton Church I just don't know.

**Linda:** I have it over here somewhere.

**Mayo:** Okay, good. Church of the Brethren and immediately surrounding their church is a cemetery and there's no division.

**Mary:** There's no division between what?

**Mayo:** Between the two cemeteries.

**Mary:** Oh, okay.

**Mayo:** There's no fence.

**Mary:** Okay.

**Mayo:** So there's a line and I know where that is but not many others know. And for a while at least one whole season my mower of the cemetery charged sixteen hundred dollars mowing – mowed their lot up to the church because he didn't know that wasn't Flint Hill Cemetery.

**Mary:** Laughing.

**Linda:** Oh, the information I have says it's Oakton Church of the Brethren.

**Mayo:** That's right.

**Linda:** Um, the congregation was organized in 1903; they built the church in the same year. The building was dedicated in 1904 and remained in use until it was replaced in 1951.

**Mayo:** By another church.

**Linda:** And then an addition was added in 1959. The cemetery contains 80 plus grave stones and is separated from Flint Hill Cemetery by a row of cedar trees. Maybe they're no longer there.

**Mayo:** Well some are there, some, I can't say they're not there. But there's no, to me there's no visible division.

**Mary:** So how many graves are there in Flint Hill Cemetery, approximately?

**Mayo:** Well I should be able to count this because we have four divisions A,B,C and D and we know how many are in each A,B,C, or D. We know how many people per. That would be a true count because if a family bought early, early on like ours; my father died in 1918 and my mother bought a lot. Well my father was the only guy there for many years until my daughter died. Oh no, we had a, we had a couple living in our house by the name of Culver and she had a still birth and she lived in our house so ma said put him in our cemetery. This is the way people use to do.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** So in one corner of this – it's 30, no it's 15, no maybe in this area it's 20 feet long and 10 feet deep so you can burry a lot of people. Well they put this little Culver boy over here right in the corner. Well when our daughter died we put her opposite him, in this same area half a grave. So this little Culver boy's there. But I'd have to look at each of our charts

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** And

**Mary:** You could figure it out.

**Mayo:** Yeah, we could figure how many lots there were.

**Mary:** Okay.

**Mayo:** But we couldn't figure out how many people are buried because we're still selling lots, sites.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** And people come back now with a new deal, cremations on top of existing bodies.

**Mary:** Oh, okay.

**Mayo:** So we could go forever.

**Mary:** Right, oh, okay.

**Mayo:** We can go forever, and our money I didn't know whether I told you all or not – we put our money away and it's up to eight hundred thousand.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** So we are headed for a million. But that's going to last forever too.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** Because we're not invading the corpus.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** We're doing it differently and we're selling lots. There are some lots still for sale. The lady who just left us she said Mayo I've got to retire and that didn't mean anything because she's

**Mary:** And she's younger than you I am sure.

**Mayo:** Yeah but we got somebody else to handle the money.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** And ah so she gave me a list of vacancies in section D and its two or three pages. It's almost a hundred lots in this heavily buried in section already. But a site here and two sites there; I showed a man last Sunday four o'clock he a place for his mother and his father. I looked on this chart and I got two numbers. I took him up there and I showed him the existing D section a lot here and a lot here two sites and two sites. He let me know; well he called me yesterday and said we are going to bury my mother at Andrew Chapel so I was a bit relieved.

**Mary:** Right. Well is there anything Mayo, we have used up a lot of your afternoon here and we certainly have appreciated. Is there anything that you would like to share with future generations about your knowledge of this area or anything about the value of historical area?

**Mayo:** Well, people who are interested in the history of this area should really dig a little bit because first of all you have; right on the surface you have our Commission with publications and stuff. We also have our contacts the Library and you have the clerk's office and the clerk's office has the archives of Fairfax County. And when you go up there if you own a house here your name is there. (Laughing) Your name is there and when you go back a hundred years their name is there; and it's still there. You know we'd go find my father buying a lot buying the three acres he bought and then he bought two more acres. Find his name and find out what happened to that piece of ground. So, it's the information is here if somebody wants to find out.

Now, I would suggest if I were you all if you write this up much is to look at our Vienna book. And you may have already looked at Moorefield and found out what we said because Connie said you shouldn't go out there and talk to these ladies without doing any research. And I said the only think I could do is read about each of these questions they are going to ask me and I can't read very well.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** So, it's there.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** The history of Fairfax is available. And we find out in letters and stuff like that. There are people Lewis Clay who lives in Loudoun now but he has collected letters with Virginia post marks. The nicest ones are Vienna post marks; but stuff like that a letter will turn up and just be interested enough to dig. Well that's all Connie and I did and I am not a pro, I wish I had majored in history; but I didn't. I'm just enthusiastic. (Laughing)

**Mary:** Well thank you very much.



**Mayo:** Well you're quite welcome I'm very happy to do it I just hope it helps some.

**Mary:** Yep, Linda have you thought of anything that we forgot?

**Linda:** One question, I don't think you got into how you met your wife and a little about your family.

**Mayo:** Well as I said I came home and I went to see Mr. Douglas and got a job at Washington Statler. I went down there and reported in and they said – so I was rehired as chief clerk in the front office of the Statler Hotel; which in 1950 it was numero uno; it was a nice, nice hotel and is today. But they've got bigger ones now. So I had or my sister was home from Argentina and her father in law lives in Falls Church so I visited with them when I wasn't visiting my sister down in Newport News. My mother was living home and I was getting a place to sleep at the moment with my sister's father in law. And there was my sister's sister in law was quite a match maker type of lady. So she took me around to see a girl by the name of Evelyn Ranlet who lived here with a cousin Connie Pendleton and the Pendleton family in Falls Church. Well we drove up to the house, there was snow on the ground, a car drove away and we drove in that spot. And later we found out that was Evelyn Ranlet; she had gone but I went in the house and met Connie Pendleton a very pretty young lady class of 1944 at Duke University and working for Arlington Hall which meant Code Breakers. You know like military code breakers. So she was a, what do you call a Code Breaker, I can't remember.

**Mary:** Intelligence, she was in

**Mayo:** Intelligence yes but there is a word. And so I met her and I thought gee what a pretty girl, nice looking young lady. So her family was not here at the time she was living with a maiden aunt who lived in the house. So a couple of nights later I was back at that front door by myself. Not with my sisters sister in law. Who took me there to meet Evelyn and Evelyn was already gone but I met Connie. So from then on it got heavier and so the next year we were married.

**Mary:** And when was that.

**Mayo:** Ah 8 March 1947. We were in 1946, 1947 and our daughter was born 28 March 1948.

**Mary:** And you had how many children?

**Mayo:** Well since then, our first child died. But the day I came back from Arlington Hospital where Charles, what was his name, there was a surgeon in Washington Charles Stanley White I think. He was quite good, he had operated on my mother he had operated on one of my uncles and he had gone to school with one of my uncles so we didn't think he charged us as much as he should of which suited us fine. And when I came home from Wilmington one time I had appendicitis and I decided Mayo come home and get that looked in to. So I came home on the train and mother met me with a wheel chair – very embarrassing. But anyway called Stanley White that afternoon and operated on me for appendicitis.

So Charles Stanley White saw our daughter and she had a lump over her ear that was forcing her ear out of position. So he saw it again about five days later and he said I've got to look at it. So he went in with an operation to take a specimen and came back and that day I went to see him and he said you're going to lose your daughter.

**Linda:** Oh, that's hard.

**Mayo:** How do you tell your wife she's going to lose –

**Linda and Mary:** yeah

**Mayo:** That day or the next day our first son was born.

**Linda:** Oh

**Mary:** Oh my goodness.

**Mayo:** We hadn't taken precautions evidently so he appeared. And so when Grace died – she came home with us and she stayed there until the first day of 1950 – the first Monday was 3 January and Grace died. I went to work at C.I.A.; I got a call at C.I.A. call home. I called home and Connie said Grace died. So I got

the bus and went home and the coroner had been there I think maybe Money and King I'm not sure. But the coroner came in and declared Grace dead. And he said well you've got a child.

**Linda and Mary:** Oh

**Mayo:** And Connie said I had two this morning. So that was Dr. Newman Thea. So ah it was tough going.

**Mary:** How many other children did you have?

**Mayo:** So then that was Mike Junior the first one in case you don't have any more boys you've got to call them junior— then another one called Reed named for Connie's father. Connie's mom's name was Grace Reed and that's Connie's mother and she'd married Charles Pendleton. Then a daughter was born Anne and Anne is back, she they are all kind of smart because Mike went on to Cornell. And we asked him why he went to Cornell and he said well he said there's a little bit of, what do you call it not nepotism, some family cause one goes out of your head, he said the only one I could get in easily - a good school I could get in and he did. And then Reed came along and Reed was a good smart student. Well he went to Princeton and I guess Ann was already at Princeton. I think it went that way. No Anne came later. He went to Princeton and then he was on the board and eased Ann in a little bit because he was there. So Mike, Reed and Anne and now we've got grandsons and one of them is a sophomore at Princeton. And the other one has been accepted at Carnegie Melon which is a tougher school too.

**Mary:** Well.

**Mayo:** And the other one's a senior here at Madison. So they'll do alright.

**Linda:** Wonderful.

**Mary:** You mentioned a sister or sister in law who went to Argentina?

**Mayo:** My sister.

**Mary:** Yeah, why did she go there?

**Mayo:** She married a guy from Falls Church by the name of Henry Stewart and Henry Stewart went to V.P.I. what we use to call Virginia Tech.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** He went there and got a degree in chemical engineering. And he was hired by standard oil to go to Argentina and run a refinery.

**Mary:** Oh, okay.

**Mayo:** So off they went the day after they got married about 1931, 1932 or something. I came down from – oh it must have been 1932 or 1933 because I had to come home from Leesburg to be an usher at the wedding. I was living and working at the hotel then in Leesburg. So they went to Argentina and they had two daughters and every three years they would come home. And of course they were bilingual and as they grew up and my sister learned to speak Spanish but not well. But the girls were very good and one of them is an emergency room nurse at Arlington Hospital bilingual; which helps them somewhat in speaking Spanish.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** And the other one, the other sister goes to Fairfax County as an interpreter for the County when they have a Spanish speaking requirement.

**Mary and Linda:** Very good, that's very nice.

**Linda:** Can I ask one more very quick question. Your book on Tysons your many history books about Fairfax County.

**Mayo:** Right.

**Linda:** But the one on Tysons what do you see for the future for Tysons Corner?

**Mayo:** Well that's a bad question for me because I don't have much hope. I talked to who is our Supervisor from, not Supervisor Representative in the House?

**Linda:** Jim Moran?

**Mayo:** No more local. Ah goes to our church. But I asked him one time.

**Linda:** Frank Wolf?

**Mayo:** Frank Wolf is it Wolf – yeah I guess it is because I always ask him who it is I can't see him. And I'm shaking hands with him – who is it? And he'll say Frank Wolf. I say I'm sorry sir I can't see. Anyway I think that's the guy. I asked him I said how about making Tysons a separate entity and incorporate it? I said if you ever do I want to be on the board. Or if you are thinking about it because Connie and I know a whole lot about

**Linda:** Yes, yes.

**Mayo:** He said Mayo until there's a grass roots urge, until the citizens say we want it to be – I'm not going to touch it because right now McLean is very happy with Tysons Corner and they share a number. I think it is 22104 or something. Because you know that in our book we wrote that Tysons is a city without a soul. They have no second hand book stores, no fire department, no police department no anything. They're all satellite they are all numbers like I think they are the same as number McLean but one different. And Vienna stops at whatever that road is up there. What went up?

**Mary:** Dolly Madison.

**Linda:** Gallows?

**Mayo:** Gallows I guess it is. Gallows comes in and we stop and then Tysons picks up. And then to the west there is only one road way out there that goes up by itself and it has a different number I think in the Post Office Department so.

**Linda:** Yeah, the zip codes up there.

**Mayo:** Yeah zip codes

**Linda:** Yeah.

**Mayo:** So, Vienna is, I mean Tysons is a city without a soul. It's hard to walk there. You can't walk from where your office is to where you want to eat lunch easily; and they're not doing much about it. They keep talking about it in Fairfax. And they're going to do this and that and make it more user friendly. That's

another zip word. But it's not, it's terrible when – we don't eat there much if at all. But we go and we park and we walk to the department stores and we walk back. But to walk out and walk across those streets or to take a bus that would be hard to do. So I don't know where Tysons is going. Our book is still selling at Barnes and Nobel still buys it and they're real funny they don't get a stack of books and sell them. They get an order and then order it from me.

**Mary:** Oh, you mean one book at a time?

**Mayo:** Yeah.

**Mary:** Uah.

**Mayo:** They pay the postage.

**Mary:** Yeah.

**Mayo:** And their – I they are just diming me to death but they are selling our books.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** But it is funny.

**Linda:** And with all the controversy with the metro system will we do underground, above ground. I think your point is very well taken about a soul for Tysons because if you have it above ground how can you ever have as your saying a community that could be walkable.

**Mayo:** Well you all don't know this but we didn't have an airport National Airport for a long time. And they monkeyed around with it and monkeyed around with it until Mr. Roosevelt said put it here. And he went to his smart guys and said it could be done if we dredged the river and fill it with gravel and then fill in on that gravel we can make a landing field. So they said alright do that I think this is the way it goes cause there was a lot of low land along there. And so they got an air strip or air strips and but Mr. Roosevelt said put it there.

I told them about – their trying to get the beltway to go across the river and into Maryland and now an outer beltway. And I said to Frank Wolf why don't they just say we're going to build it here through Great Falls somewhere; because Great Falls people are all fighting it. And he said you can't do it we don't have the leadership. In Roosevelt days they had the leadership, today we don't. So we're not going to get things done. The people would rise up in arms. But that's what we ought to do build up an outer beltway and connect it. And that would take the pressure off our existing ah what they call the bridge up here – something to do with service men.

**Mary:** Oh, American Legion.

**Mayo:** American Legion yeah. Then the next one is way up at Leesburg Route 15; you know what's that 10 or 15 miles. Well they can put a beltway in six lanes in each direction.

**Mary:** (chuckles) Right.

**Mayo:** And they could put that in but they won't do it.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** So, now about the tunnel what is so crazy – in New York we are aware of the overhead rails, subway and they go crashing by cause certain parts of New York still have them – the EL. I guess it's called the EL and to have that in Vienna now 40 or 50 feet above these medal cars going by that high there are – put it underground through Tysons II and Tysons I – so easy.

**Linda:** Yes.

**Mayo:** With walkways to each.

**Linda:** Yes.

**Mayo:** So, but money is a big factor. And before ah who was the guy who left us and went – he resigned from the house?

**Mary:** Tom Davis.

**Mayo:** Tom Davis he said it's a matter of money Mayo nine hundred thousand and that's probably over well.

**Mary:** Probably nine hundred

**Mary and Linda:** Nine hundred million.

**Mayo, Mary and Linda:** Yeah nine hundred million.

**Mayo:** And that bets to be a billion.

**Mary:** Right.

**Mayo:** (laughing) So I don't know, again we need strong leadership. Maybe the Board of Supervisors could do that, just demand it. Somebody put a lot of money in, oh the big builder down in Tysons – I want to say Wells but that's not right. Somebody but a lot of money and then had a lot of meetings and stirred a lot of hope.

**Linda:** West Group.

**Mayo:** West Group yeah whatever the guy's name is.

**Linda:** Halpin

**Mayo:** Halpin yeah so we ought to have a user friendly Tysons and we don't have. And I don't know how to get it.

**Mary:** Oh, you'd be a millionaire if you did. (Laughing) If you could do it yeah.

**Mayo:** Yeah.

**Mary:** Well thank you so much, okay.

**Linda:** It's been a delight.

**Mary:** Yeah.

**Mayo:** I hope so and this turns out.

**Mary:** Yeah.



**Mayo:** and I don't know.

**Mary:** We need to get some spellings from you.

**Mayo:** Let's see ta the cemetery's in our district.

**Mary:** Yeah.

**Mayo:** Because I – Martha Pennino was good about keeping where I live up to Babcock Road that's the next big road. And she always said we'll keep – I want the Stuntzs in my district.

**Mary:** Yeah.

**Mayo:** But then we moved here and it didn't make any difference.

**Mary:** Yeah.

**Mayo:** And she's gone. I'm about to give a talk somewhere at some appreciation for Martha and I'm going to talk about Hunter Mill.

**Mary and Linda:** Oh, good.

**Mayo:** Who owned Hunter Mill and there was a woman who inherited it. They got the name there so.

**Linda:** Where is that located exactly?

**Mayo:** Hunter Mill was just before you get to Hunter Station and the bike trail there's a road goes down and it crosses a big stream and that's Difficult Run and Difficult Run goes a little further and it goes under the bike trail and that's where trains use to come. Well at the beginning of the Civil War they destroyed that bridge, the North or South I don't know. But trains couldn't go any further than Vienna because that bridge was destroyed. So there was no train traffic beyond that. So it's a nice place Hunter Mill and has nice well up on the hill there's an old, old house. So if I give this talk and go on to answer questions I'll probably read what Connie wrote about that house. And then there is another house down here which was the Miller's house. And the Miller's house was right near

where I think Hunter Mill was. And I met with a group of men six months ago on a Saturday morning and took them down and showed them where I thought Hunter Mill was and I showed them the Millrace. You need a Millrace to get water.

**Mary:** Was this a grist mill or a saw mill.

**Mayo:** Grist mill.

**Mary:** Grist mill.

**Mayo:** And it may have had, well when you have power of any kind you can make a Grist Mill by installing some belts and some saws. But the other was a Flour Mill and would grind the wheat and whatever else corn so you can have it that way.

But it's too bad it wasn't written when people were living

**Mary:** Alright.

**Mayo:** Who could remember?

**Mary:** That's why we're doing this now.

**Mayo:** Well there's something about we were researching and it said near the old burnt mill – well wait a minute now so the mill did burn down.

**Mary:** Yeah.

**Mayo:** Oh, you pick at something like that and you say

**Mary:** Oh it's always a mystery to connect.

**Mayo:** An old burnt mill.

**Mary:** Okay.

**Linda:** Thank you.